

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments and following comments is courteously solicited.

New independent claim 16 is drawn to the structure shown in Figures 4 and 5 of the instant application. It is respectfully submitted that independent claim 16 and the claims which depend therefrom patentably define over the art of record.

Independent claim 16 sets forth the following:

"...the anchor member has an internal surface, the narrow portion and immediate adjacent first and second portions of the shaft have an external surface, wherein the internal surface and external surface each have a profile which are complementary in shape..."

None of the prior art previously cited by the examiner teach this specific structure.

The Examiner in his last Office action rejected the previously submitted claims under 35 U.S.C. 101 and 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claim 16 and the claims which depend therefrom comply with 35 U.S.C. 101 and 35 U.S.C. 112, both first and second paragraphs.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted the instant application is now in condition for allowance and an early indication of same is respectfully requested.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and

early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

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